

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: STRA, GW, PL

SUBJ: STATUS REPORT: EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION

REF: STUTTGART 1328

1. BASF'S CASE WAS AMONG A NUMBER OF SIMILAR CASES WHICH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EXPORT POLICY (SUB-ACEP) RECENTLY DISCUSSED. THE GENERAL QUESTION OF EXPORT LICENSING REVOLVED AROUND THE QUESTION: SHOULD 60 MEGA-BYTE DISC DRIVES BE LICENSED FOR ATTACHMENT TO THE RYAD 1040 AND SHOULD 100 MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES BE LICENSED FOR ATTACHMENT TO THE RYAD 1032? (THE LATTER BEING BASF CASE.) TODATE, THE USG HAS NOT AUTHORIZED SALE OF ANY 100 MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES FOR INSTALLATION ON COMMUNIST BUILT COMPUTERS, ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF U.S. AND FOREIGN FIRMS HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN APPROACHED BY COMMUNIST SOURCES TO SUPPLY 100-MEGABYTE DRIVES FOR THE RYAD 1032 AND 1040 LINES.

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2. THE GENERAL CONSENSUS OF THE MEETING REVEALED THAT THIS TECHNOLOGY, WHICH IS OF A SUPERIOR TYPE TO THAT OF 30-MEGABYTE DRIVES, (NOW LICENSABLE AS SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS) IS NOT AVAILABLE FROM INDIGENOUS SOURCES WITHIN THE WARSAW

PACT COUNTRIES. FURTHERMORE, THERE HAVE BEEN STRONG OPINIONS EXPRESSED THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF 100-MEGABYTE

DISC DRIVES ON COMMUNIST COMPUTERS WOULD GIVE THE COMECON COUNTRIES GREATLY IMPROVED COMPUTING CAPACITY THROUGH THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF THE WESTERN DISC DRIVES. ALTHOUGH NO FINAL DECISION HAS YET BEEN REACHED ON THIS MANY-FACETED SUBJECT, THE TENDENCY IS TOWARD DENIAL OF LICENSES TO SELL THE TYPE OF DRIVES WHICH BASF AND OTHER FIRMS SEEK.

3. THE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THAT THE CONGEN INFORMALLY ADVISE BASF OF THE ABOVE, NOTING THAT THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL POSITION AT THIS TIME, BUT IS INDICATIVE OF THE TENOR OF RECENT DELIBERATIONS OVER WHETHER WE SHOULD ALLOW SALE OF COMPUTER PERIPHERAL EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF COMMUNIST-BUILT COMPUTERS. CHRISTOPHER

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